

REMARKS

After entry of this Preliminary Amendment, claims 3, 7-13, and 19-24 are canceled without prejudice to future prosecution and claims 1, 2, 4-6, 14-18, and 25-38 will be pending for examination.

Support for Amendment to the Specification

In the Specification, the first full paragraph, which bridges pages 1 and 2, and appears under the heading "Cross-Reference to Related Applications," is amended to update the numerous priority claims of the present continuation application. Support of the amendment can be found in the data entry sheet submitted at the filing of the present continuation application.

The rest of amendments to the Specification consist of corrections of typographical mistakes obvious to one skilled in the art. None of the amendments introduces any new matter.

Support for the New Claims

Support for the new claims may be found in the Specification, for example, at pages 3, 6, 13, 14, 19, and 26, FIGS. 5-7, and claims as originally filed. Applicants submit that no new matter is introduced by the new claims.

Formal Drawings

Fourteen (14) sheets of formal drawings are attached at Exhibit A and submitted to replace 13 sheets of informal drawings. Applicants submit that the formal drawings do not introduce any new matter.

CONCLUSION

If, in the Examiner's opinion, a telephonic interview would serve to clarify issues and expedite the prosecution of the present application, the undersigned attorney would

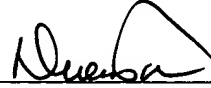
welcome the opportunity to discuss any outstanding issues, and to work with the Examiner toward placing the application in condition for allowance.

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Reg. No. Limited Recognition

Tel. No.: (617) 248-7808
Fax No.: (617) 248-7100

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Respectfully submitted,



Duan Wu
Attorney for Applicant
Testa, Hurwitz & Thibault, LLP
High Street Tower
125 High Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02110